



CCM 2013 Testimony

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PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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CCM is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 92% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate this opportunity to testify before this joint committee.

HB 5966, "An Act Authorizing Fees in Lieu of Sidewalk Construction"

CCM supports this bill.

HB 5966 would enact legislation that improves the development of sidewalks in communities and empowers municipalities to collect fees-in-lieu-of-sidewalk (FILOS) installation (*similar to provisions allowing payments in lieu of open space*).

The proposal would:

- Impose no new costs on developers;
- Require FILOS to be deposited into an account to be used for sidewalk installation;
- Limit FILOS to be no more than the costs of installation that would have been incurred; and
- Allow municipalities to provide incentives to developers opting to pay the FILOS.

HB 5966 is a common sense proposal that benefits developers in that they don't have to building "sidewalks to nowhere"; it benefits towns and cities in that they can decide where is the best place in the community to build sidewalks or multi-use trails.

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If you have any questions, please contact Ron Thomas rthomas@ccm-ct.org at (203) 498-3000.